

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 218
By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ryan Barrett Durham on becoming an Eagle Scout.

WHEREAS, at a time when this nation's youth face difficult challenges, the Boy Scouts of America is one of our finest assets, providing young people with an educational program that contributes significantly to their character development, citizenship training, and improved mental and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, the highest rank a Boy Scout can attain is that of Eagle Scout, and Ryan Barrett Durham, after considerable effort and diligent preparation, joined the prestigious Eagle Court of Honor in June of 2004; and

WHEREAS, a talented and impassioned student, Mr. Durham has exhibited a rare dedication to and fondness for the entire arena of knowledge throughout his entire scholastic career; and

WHEREAS, currently a freshman at Wake Forest University, Ryan Durham is a member of the Student Government; is a Reporter and Assistant Sports Editor for the *Old Gold and Black*, Wake Forest's student newspaper; is involved with LEAD, a leadership development program, and SPARC, a community service project program; and is a highly-respected member of the Gamma Phi Chapter of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity; and

WHEREAS, during high school, Mr. Durham pursued a wide variety of interests and activities while maintaining a high degree of excellence in the realm of academia; while taking many Honors and Advanced Placement classes, he also served on the Model United Nations team, for which he served as Whip and Vice President and won an Outstanding Proposal Award; the Youth Legislature, which he served as Whip and Chief Engrossing Clerk and represented in the National Youth Legislature; Tennessee Tomorrow; the Swim Team, which he

served as Captain and from which he garnered a varsity letter, the Most Valuable Player award, and the Sportsmanship Award; the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; the Math Team; the National Honor Society; and the Yearbook staff; participated in the American Legion Boys State; and was a Peer Mediator; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Durham's ability, intelligence, and hard work throughout his high school career did not go unrecognized; he was one of a small number of semi-finalists for the Coca-Cola Scholarship, won the United States Achievement Academy Award, and was recognized in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*; and

WHEREAS, his notable record of achievement as a member of his Boy Scout troop includes many Merit Badges and distinguished service in the Order of the Arrow, for which he once stood as Chapter Secretary; and

WHEREAS, reflecting a concern for the betterment of his community and a true spirit of volunteerism, Ryan Durham was a three-time participant in Teen Court, twice served as a People to People Student Ambassador, volunteered his services at Hendersonville Hospital, and was Youth Coordinator for the Relay for Life Team, which raised money for the American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, he evinces his devout religious faith as a member of the Church of Our Savior, where, throughout high school, he was a Crucifer and a Server; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should pause to recognize Ryan Durham as one of the most outstanding and inspiring young people in our state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Ryan Barrett Durham on becoming an Eagle Scout, and extend to him our best wishes for and every confidence in his every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final resolving clause omitted from such copy.